# **ETH** zürich

Seminar | Theoretical Computer Science Meets other Disciplines

# Using flies to find algorithms

Silas Gyger 1. April 2021

#### A Biological Solution to a Fundamental Distributed Computing Problem<sub>by Afek et. al.</sub>



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Algorithm



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Algorithm | Approach



## Outline

1. Problem

- 2. Approach
- 3. Solution
- 4. Critique



## Outline

## 1. Problem

2. Approach

3. Solution

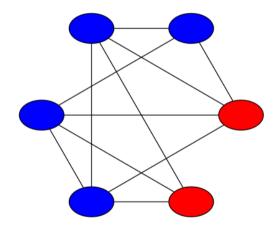
4. Critique



### Problem

Maximal Independent Set (MIS)











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• No two  $v \in A$  are connected



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- Adding any  $v \notin A$  to A violates previous property

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- Every node  $v \in V$  either is in A or is adjacent to A
- No two nodes in A are adjacent to each other



## Outline

1. Problem

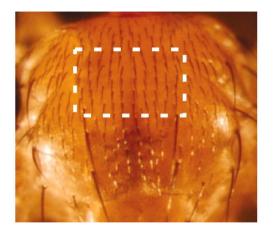
## 2. Approach

3. Solution

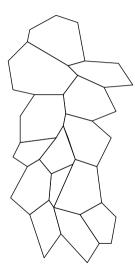
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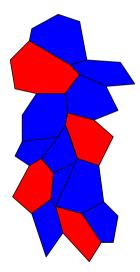




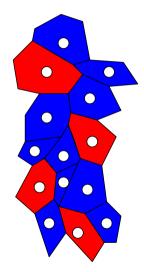




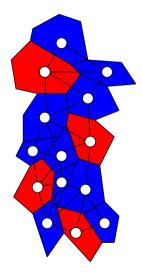














• Algorithm runs on nodes

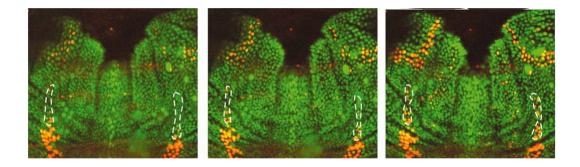


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- Nodes can communicate via edges
- Nodes have no initial knowledge of topology of graph
- Nodes can't selectively recevie or send messages





## Outline

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## Algorithm

- 1. With probability *p*: Broadcast
- 2. If no other node broadcasts:
  - Exit as MIS
- 3. If neighbour exits as MIS:
  - Exit as non-MIS

Otherwise: Fail.



## Proofs



Correctness



- Correctness
- Probability of Success



- Correctness
- Probability of Success  $1 \frac{\log n}{n^2}$



- Correctness
- Probability of Success  $1 \frac{\log n}{n^2}$
- Runtime



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Success = No neighours



To bound probability: Consider **maximum degree** *D* of graph.



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Maximum degree halves every round with high probability.



After  $\log D$  rounds...



After  $\log D$  rounds... maximum degree is

 $\frac{D}{2^{\log D}} = 1$ 



Consider v with "too high" degree for round i



Probability *v* is removed is:



#### Probability *v* is removed is:

• v exits as MIS



#### Probability v is removed is:

- v exits as MIS
- neighbour of v exits as MIS





P(v or neighbor of v broadcasts)



 $P(v \text{ or neighbor of } v \text{ broadcasts}) \cdot P(\text{broadcasting node is sole broadcaster})$ 



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turns out:



 $P(v \text{ or neighbor of } v \text{ broadcasts}) \cdot P(\text{broadcasting node is sole broadcaster})$ 

turns out: constant for their choice of broadcasting probability.



Repeat this step  $O(\log n)$  often...



Repeat this step  $O(\log n)$  often...superconstant probability.



P(success)



P(success $) \ge P($ halved until round  $\log D)$ 



$$P($$
success $) \ge P($ halved until round  $\log D) \ge 1 - \frac{\log D}{n^2}$ 



$$P(\mathsf{success}) \ge P(\mathsf{halved until round} \log D) \ge 1 - rac{\log D}{n^2} \ge 1 - rac{\log n}{n^2}$$



# Outline

1. Problem

2. Approach

3. Solution

### 4. Critique



### Critique

• Connection between fly and result not too strong



### Critique

- · Connection between fly and result not too strong
- Inspiration by previous algorithms high



### Critique

- · Connection between fly and result not too strong
- Inspiration by previous algorithms high
- ...adaption of previous solution to constraints of fly?

• Analysis not mathematical



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$$P(...) \ge (1 - \frac{1}{d+1})^d > \frac{1}{e}$$



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they used

$$P(\ldots) \ge (1 - \frac{1}{d})^d \approx \frac{1}{e}$$

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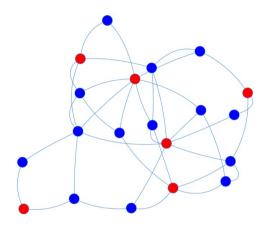
$$P(...) \ge (1 - \frac{1}{d+1})^d > \frac{1}{e}$$

they used

$$P(\ldots) \ge (1 - \frac{1}{d})^d \approx \frac{1}{e}$$

Error: > 0.3 for d = 1





#### Questions?



Show that it halves in rounds  $0...\log D$ :



• Show round 0



- Show round 0
- Assume halved until round i 1



- Show round 0
- Assume halved until round i-1
- Estimate  $P(A) \ge P(A|B)P(B)$



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P(halved in rounds 0..i)



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P(halved in rounds 0..i)

 $\geq P(\text{halved in rounds } 0..i \mid \text{halved in rounds } 0...i - 1)$ 

 $\cdot P(\text{halved in rounds } 0...i - 1)$ 

lf

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lf

•  $D = \max \text{ degree of graph} + 1$ 



#### lf

- $D = \max \text{ degree of graph} + 1$
- $D_i = \max \text{ degree in round } i + 1$



lf

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$$P(D_i \le \frac{D}{2^i})$$



lf

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- $D_i = \max \text{ degree in round } i + 1$

$$P(D_i \le \frac{D}{2^i}) \ge 1 - \frac{i}{n^2}$$

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P(success)



# $P(\texttt{success}) = P(D_{end} \le 1)$



$$\begin{aligned} &P(\texttt{success}) \\ &= P(D_{end} \le 1) \\ &= P(D_i \le \frac{D}{2^i}) \text{ for } i = \log D \end{aligned}$$



$$P(\text{success})$$

$$= P(D_{end} \le 1)$$

$$= P(D_i \le \frac{D}{2^i}) \text{ for } i = \log D$$

$$\ge 1 - \frac{\log D}{n^2}$$

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$$P(\text{success})$$

$$= P(D_{end} \le 1)$$

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$$\ge 1 - \frac{\log D}{n^2}$$

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 $A_i$  = in round *i*, degree is at most  $\frac{D}{2^i}$ 



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$$P(A_i) \ge 1 - \frac{i}{n^2}$$





$$Q(i) := P(A_i) \ge p(i)$$



$$Q(i) := P(A_i) \ge p(i)$$
$$Q(0) \land Q(i-1) \to Q(i)$$



 $P(A_i)$ 



$$P(A_i) = P(A_i|A_{i-1})P(A_{i-1}) + P(A_i|\neg A_{i-1})P(\neg A_{i-1})$$



$$P(A_i) = P(A_i | A_{i-1}) P(A_{i-1}) + P(A_i | \neg A_{i-1}) P(\neg A_{i-1})$$



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 $P(A_i|A_{i-1})$ 



 $P(A_i|A_{i-1})$ 

"after round *i*, max degree is  $d \coloneqq \frac{D}{2^i}$ , assuming before round it's  $\frac{D}{2^{i-1}} = 2d$ "



 $\begin{array}{c} d & \max \mbox{ degree after round } i \\ 2d & \max \mbox{ degree before round } i \end{array}$ 



- $d \mod i$
- $2d \mod i$
- $\frac{1}{d}$  probability for node to broadcast in round *i*



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- d max degree after round i2d max degree before round i
  - $\frac{1}{d}$  probability for node to broadcast in round *i*

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P(v or neighbour of v broadcasts)



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= 1 - P(neither v nor neighbour of v broadcasts)

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$$\geq 1 - (1 - \frac{1}{d})^d$$



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Let v =node with degree > d. Then

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$$\geq 1 - (1 - \frac{1}{d})^d \approx 1 - \frac{1}{e}$$



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 $\geq (1 - P(\text{neighbour broadcasts}))^{2d}$ 

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P(broadcast doesn't collide|broadcast happens)

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$$\geq (1-\frac{1}{e})\frac{1}{e^2}$$



Hence, probability that v is removed in this step is is

$$\geq (1 - \frac{1}{e})\frac{1}{e^2}$$
$$> \frac{1}{2^4}$$



P(v removed this round))



 $P(v \text{ removed this round})) \geq \dots$ 



$$P(v ext{ removed this round})) \geq ... > 1 - rac{1}{n^3}$$



$$P(v \text{ removed this round})) \geq \ldots > 1 - \frac{1}{n^3}$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 



$$P(v \text{ removed this round})) \geq ... > 1 - rac{1}{n^3}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  P(all nodes with deg > d removed)



$$P(v \text{ removed this round})) \geq ... > 1 - rac{1}{n^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
  $P($ all nodes with deg  $> d$  removed $) \geq 1 - rac{1}{n^2}$ 



$$P(v \text{ removed this round})) \geq ... > 1 - rac{1}{n^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\text{all nodes with deg} > d \text{ removed}) \ge 1 - \frac{1}{n^2}$$
$$= P(A_i | A_{i-1})$$



 $P(A_i)$ 



### $P(A_i) \geq P(A_i|A_{i-1})P(A_{i-1})$



$$P(A_i) \ge P(A_i|A_{i-1})P(A_{i-1})$$
  
 $\ge (1 - \frac{1}{n^2})P(A_{i-1})$ 



$$P(A_i) \geq P(A_i|A_{i-1})P(A_{i-1})$$
  
$$\geq (1 - \frac{1}{n^2})P(A_{i-1})$$
  
$$\geq (q - \frac{1}{n^2})(1 - \frac{i-1}{n^2})$$



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$$> 1 - \frac{i}{n^2}$$

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